1	2	3	4
22.	Agartata	Tripura	M/s CARETEL Infotech Ltd., 133, Bipani Britan, Durga Choumohani, Tripura West, Agartala-799002.
23.	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	M/s CARETEL infotech Ltd, 508-A Software Technology Park,UPSIDC Complex, A-1/4 Lakhanpur, Kanpur-208024 U.P.
24.	Dehradun	Uttarakhand	M/s CARETEL Infotech Ltd, C/O M/s Devbhoomi Yellow Pages. H.No. 110/208, Park Road, Laxman Chowk, Dehradun-248001
25.	Kolkata	West Bengal Andaman & Nicobar Islands	M/s CARETEL Infotech Ltd, 12A CAMAC Street 2nd floor Unit-2A Kolkata-700017 Tel:098301 86544 cc.ccu@caretelindia.com

Shrinking of Cultivable Land

1509. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that availability of cultivable land in India is shrinking;

(b) if so, the cultivable land in different States in 1975, 1985,1995, and 2005; and

(c) the steps being taken to convert arid, barren and marshy land into cultivable land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Cultivable Land in India has decreased from 184800 Thousand Hectares in 1975-76 to 182708 Thousand Hectares in 2006-07.

(b) A statement on State-wise cultivable land in Agricultural year 1975-76, 1985-86, 1995-96 and 2005-06 (Provisional) is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Union Government has set up a National Rainfed Area Authority as an advisory, policy making; and monitoring body to provide knowledge inputs regarding systematic up-gradation and management of country's dryland and rainfed agriculture. Programmes like National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas, Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone River, Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas, Reclamation and Development of Alkali & Acid Soils and other externally aided projects are being implemented on watershed approach for development of rainfed and degraded land including arid and barren land through soil and water moisture conservation measures.

The Department of Land Resources (DoLR) is implementing three Centrally Sponsored area development programmes namely Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis. One of the main objectives of these programmes is conservation and development of natural resources i.e. land, water and vegetative cover. During last five years, a total of 5487 projects covering an area of 2.92 million hectares under DPAP, 392 projects covering an area 0.196 million hectares under DDP and 452 projects covering an area of 2.26 million hectares have been sanctioned under IWDP.

Statement

State-wise Cultivable land for the Agricultural Year 1975-76, 1985-86, 1995-96 and 2005-06

(Thousand Hectares)

State/Union Territory	1975-76	1985-86	1995-96	2005-06 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	15800	16206	15892	15772
Arunachal Pradesh	452	291	293	418
Assam	3255	3228	3229	3224
Bihar	11661	11265	10925	6638
Chhattisgarh*				5590
Goa	228	221	197	197
Gujarat	12443	12336	12355	12412
Haryana	3784	3806	3769	3784
Himachal Pradesh	789	809	811	813
Jammu & Kashmir	1066	1061	1051	1050
Jharkhand*				4184
Karnataka	12834	12867	12904	12905
Kerala	2446	2438	2446	2323
Madhya Pradesh	22488	22818	22762	17337
Maharashtra	21123	21190	21175	21167
Manipur	164	164	164	232
Meghalaya	1100	1161	1074	1058
Mizoram	584	584	445	218

1	2	3	4	5
Nagaland	113	615	626	644
Orissa	7764	7912	7924	7473
Punjab	4289	4291	4250	4270
Rajasthan	25949	25831	25703	25621
Sikkim*		114	114	155
Tamilnadu	8519	8421	8334	8164
Tripura	355	312	310	310
Uttarakhand*				1504
Uttar Pradesh	21052	20843	20819	19268
West Bengal	6316	6117	5850	5749
A & Nicobar Islands	67	80	70	47
Chandigarh*		3	3	2
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	21	25	24	24
Daman & Diu*		6	7	3
Delhi	100	74	63	58
Lakshya Deep	3	2	3	3
Pondicherry	36	35	34	31
ALL-INDIA :	184800	185127	183626	182648

* These States/UTs were created later on. For some years, data for these State/UTs are not available.

Risk of drought due to delayed monsoon

†1510. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the possibility of drought is looming large due to delay in monsoon;

(b) the Government's norms to define the drought;

(c) whether Government has taken comprehensive steps to deal with the drought; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As reported by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), during the period 1.6.2009 to 8.7.2009, the country as a whole received 151 mm of rainfall against normal average rainfall of 234.7 mm,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi